

## KLAUS J. BACH & ASSOCIATES PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS 4407 TWIN OAKS DRIVE MURRYSVILLE, PA 15668 USA

TEL: 724-327-0664 FAX: 724-327-0004

Case WM 134

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Berthold Klein et al

Title: FOLDING ROOF FOR A CONVERTABLE VEHICLE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 10, 2003

SIR:

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)**

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

DE 19 713 710 A1 has been discussed in detail in the introductory part of the application. The other references were cited during prosecution of the corresponding German application. However, the references do not disclose that, In a roof for a convertible vehicle including a folding roof supported by a linkage mounted to the vehicle body with a roof cover material extending over the linkage wherein the folding roof is movable between a closed position, in which it covers an interior vehicle space, and a storage position, in which it is deposited in a folding roof storage space, a rigid rear roof

part is provided, which is supported by the vehicle body in a closed position when the folding roof is in a closed position and also when the folding roof is stored in the roof storage space.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Bouch Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.